

HARD COAL MEN SEE HOPE ON STRIKE'S EVE

Cost of Living Bone of Contention in Anthracite Conference Here.

'SAVING WAGE' ISSUE

Men Demand \$1,800 a Year as Minimum for Unskilled Mine Labor.

PAY ABOVE WAR PEAK

Operators Submit Figures to Prove Demand for 17 P. C. Cut Is Justified.

The joint subcommittee of anthracite mine operators and miners continued to discuss wages and the high cost of living yesterday when the conference was resumed at the Union League Club.

Several weeks may be taken up with the presentation of proposals and counter proposals, after which the real work of the committee—bargaining—will begin. None of the leaders has ventured a guess how long that will take. The strike starts at midnight tomorrow.

A minimum wage of \$1,800 a year for unskilled mine labor was demanded yesterday by the United Mine Workers. The entire session was devoted to presenting this subclause in the wage demand. It was referred to as the "saving wage," meaning the smallest living wage on which, it is alleged, a family of five can exist in the anthracite district.

Philip Murray, vice-president and spokesman of the union, issued a statement after the meeting in which he said, "We are hopeful."

S. D. Warriner, president of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company and leader of the operators group, also expressed hope. Mr. Warriner then discussed the operator's position more fully than at any time since the conference opened, two weeks ago. Although he declined to state exactly what the mine owners will offer, it was apparent their proposition will be a reduction of wages at least to the scale existing prior to March, 1920, which was approximately 17 per cent. less than today. The miners have asked for a 20 per cent. increase.

Want Facts, Not Statistics.

Mr. Warriner said actual living conditions, not the "statistics of theorists," must be taken as a basis for the minimum wage.

"Please get this in your head," he said. "The wages of the anthracite miners already are 17 per cent. above the war peak as fixed by the Fuel Administration and the War Labor Board. In May, 1918, we made an agreement to run four years. In 1917 we made two voluntary increases. In November 1918, we made a third voluntary increase. In November, 1919, when the war was over, we voluntarily agreed to continue the war scale until March, 1920."

"In 1920 the Wilson committee awarded for two years an advance of 17 per cent., making a total increase since May, 1916, of 45 per cent. for contract men and from \$1.80 to \$2.20 a day for day men."

Mr. Murray's argument was that whereas the wages advanced 45 per cent. in six years the cost of living in the mine fields has advanced 83 per cent., entitling the miners to 18 per cent. at least under the "saving wage" system. He also laid great stress upon the physical hazard of mine labor, saying more than 500 men were killed in the anthracite mines each year and 20,000 are victims of accidents.

One of the arguments the mine operators will use in support of a wage reduction will be the bank statements of the anthracite district for 1920 and 1921.

Mr. Warriner said the deposits have increased \$75,000,000, indicating the general prosperity of northeastern Pennsylvania.

"We believe the anthracite fields since the war have been the most prosperous section of the whole United States," he said.

Another argument the operators will present is a table of living costs prepared by the National Industrial Conference Board and issued yesterday. It states that the board has just completed the most comprehensive economic survey of the anthracite fields ever made and shows:

"Between July, 1920, when the peak of the rise in the cost of living was reached, and February, 1922, the minimum cost of living for families of anthracite mine workers declined 20.7 per cent. Among families who live in houses owned by the coal companies, representing less than 10 per cent. of the miners, the decrease in cost was 23.2 per cent. This difference is due to the fact that while rents of privately owned houses had advanced since July, 1920, the coal companies were charging the same rents in February, 1922, as they had been in July, 1920."

Wages Now 17% Below Record Paid in War Time

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., March 29.

WORKERS throughout the United States are earning approximately 17 per cent. below the record earnings of the war period, according to the Department of Labor.

Bituminous coal miners, about to stage a nationwide strike, show average earnings higher than workers in cloth mills.

Earnings range from \$2 to \$5 a day, reports received from more than 700 big mills and factories show. The average worker is earning close to \$1,000 a year. This is nearly double the average for the period before the war, although not so high as during 1919 and 1920, when wage scales were the highest in history.

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Figures on Cost of Living.

The cost of living in the anthracite fields as estimated by the board's experts follows:

"The minimum cost of maintaining a fair American standard of living among anthracite mine workers' families, according to conditions actually prevailing in February, 1922, varied from \$897.34 a year for a family consisting of a man, woman and one child living in company owned houses to \$1,455.45 a year for a similar family with four children living in commercially owned houses."

The Shipping Board will undertake to transport coal from England only on a business basis at a price which will insure a fair return, Commissioner T. V. O'Connor said yesterday. Mr. O'Connor disposed of the assumption, widely held, that the board, acting as a Government agency in the event of a strike, would carry the coal necessary to keep industry and transportation in operation regardless of the expense.

Calculations by steamship men showed that prices would have to rise considerably before it would become feasible to import coal from England, except as individual vessels may bring the fuel as ballast. The export price abroad is 25 shillings, or about \$4.35 at present exchange rates, as compared with a waterfront price here of about \$5. The freight rate is given as at least \$2, bringing the total cost of laying down coal at the waterfront to \$7.35 or more, to which there would have to be added the cost of transporting the fuel to its destination on land.

STRIKERS STIR STORM IN RHODE ISLAND SENATE

Textile Workers Stage Demonstration for 48 Hour Bill.

PROVIDENCE, March 29.—Blackstone Valley textile mill strikers, who jammed every available foot of space in the gallery and choked the entrances to the floor of the Senate chamber, to-day threw the Senate into confusion which ended only when the leaders of the men and women, seeing that Lieut.-Gov. Harold J. Gross, the presiding officer, was unable to quiet them, induced them to leave the State House.

The strikers went to the Capitol for a demonstration in favor of the Lavanier forty-eight hour bill, which has been in a Senate committee since its passage by the House two weeks ago to-day.

More than 500 made the pilgrimage and as many as could crushed into the Senate gallery.

Another demonstration is promised by the labor men for Friday.

17,050 OPERATIVES OUT IN BIG TEXTILE STRIKE

Everett Mills at Lawrence Shut Down Indefinitely.

LAWRENCE, MASS., March 29.—It was estimated to-night that 17,050 of the 20,600 normally employed in the textile mills are idle because of the strike.

The shutting down, indefinitely, of the Everett mills to-day was regarded as significant. Strike leaders said the small numbers appearing for work had crippled every department. The mills normally employ 1,800 operators.

The Katama and Pemberton mills were reported also to have shut down, but this was denied.

Officials of the Pacific mills, which usually employ 8,200, admitted serious losses to their operating forces but said the mills would remain open. It was estimated that 2,500 were at work there.

Saks & Company

Broadway at 34th Street

Saks & Company

Beaded Costume Blouses FROM PARIS

—just arrived on the S/S "Rochambeau," offered Thursday at the extraordinary price of
14.75

Colorful beads twinkle with delight at providing so much smartness—helping to reflect the chic that is Paris, and the new mode in blouses as Paris now wears it.



Of heavy crepe de Chine, beaded luxuriously in contrasting shade.

Black with sphinx, gray with steel, rust with steel, navy with steel, white with red, bisque with gold, and a host of other exquisite combinations. Sizes 34 to 46.

Third Floor

Exquisite French Tea Gowns

AT GREAT REDUCTIONS

—comprising exquisite imported chiffon and velvet brocades, silk crepe and crepe Georgette, and filmy laces.

Formerly 37.50, 29.50 and 24.50	now 18.50
Formerly 56.50, 50.00 and 45.00	now 37.50
Formerly 142.50, 117.00 and 98.50	now 85.00

Third Floor

A Special Offering for Thursday

Women's Wraps, Coats and Capes

—authentic reproductions of costly imports—

at **39.50**

There are wraps that may be swathed about the figure or draped in the Greek manner, and whose only adornment is a satin rever. Others prove that trimmings of embroidery, smart stitching, or silk fringe may keep rapid pace with the mode. They are beautifully lined in silks or crepes, and come in sorrento, deer, fallow, navy and black. The materials:

Velamara, Veldyne, Tricotine, Shawsheen and Twillcord

all of excellent quality and the very smartest for Spring wear!

Fourth Floor



Slip Over Sweaters

—with the new loop neckline—

Thursday at **5.95**

One finds many an innovation in smart sweaters these days—but newest among them is the new loop neckline that takes the form of a U for Fashion.

They are of pure mohair yarn and display the ever present narrow sash without which no sweater is modish this season. In white, gray, black, navy, orchid, buff, jade and Copenhagen blue.

Third Floor



Women's Smart Frocks

—of krepe-knit and crepe de Chine—

We feature for THURSDAY two new models

at **25.00**

Smart, simple tailoring gives a tone of distinction to this krepe-knit frock (pictured), that is so designed as to show both sides of this delightful material. There are three large buttons on the blouse and long loops of self-material on the skirt. In beaver, navy, wedgewood and gray.

Paris says "tucks"—which appear as the only adornment on the blouse and skirt of another model of crepe de Chine, which comes in navy, black and henna. Sizes 34 to 44. Both are really wonderful values at 25.00!



120 Cloth Frocks

Reduced to Half Price

Frocks, formerly 75.00 to 125.00

reduced to **49.50**

Frocks, formerly 29.50 to 49.50

reduced to **18.50**

Gold-Plated Enamel Top Powder Cases

—complete with compact and puff—

Special, **75c**

The smartest way to carry powder, and large enough to carry a generous supply. The enamel top comes in delightful shades of red, jade, blue, yellow and rose.

Jewelry Dept., Street Floor



Men's Tourist Cases

Regularly 21.50

at **14.50**

Several models to choose from—developed in imported pigskin, tan cowhide, dark brown steer hide and black cobra—every one a leather that will withstand hard service. Efficiently fitted with all the accessories one needs when traveling—comb, brushes, mirror, scissors and holders are included.

Street Floor



THE FUR for TROTTEUR WEAR

Fox Scarves

—that are as softly flattering to one's frocks as to one's entire appearance

At Decidedly Low Prices

Lucille or Taupe-dyed Fox	39.50
Platinum Dyed Fox	59.50
Paradise Dyed Blue Fox	59.50
Cherry Red Fox	49.50



THREE DESIRABLE MODELS IN

Footwear for the College Miss

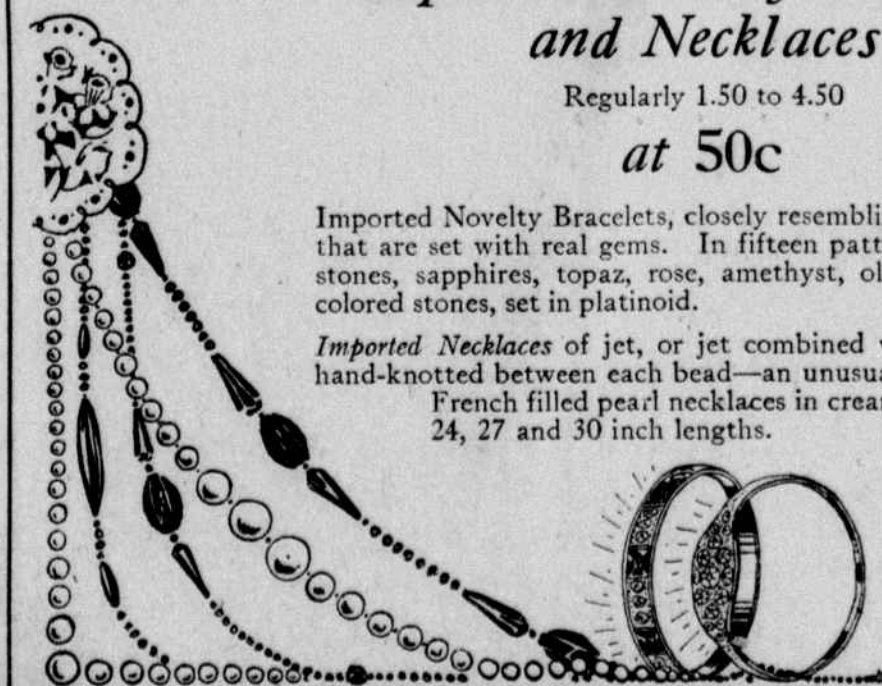
Thursday at very Moderate Prices

At 7.00—A patent dress pump of youthful simplicity and flapper charm. With welted sole and leather heel.

At 6.95—A sports oxford that steps in squarely to meet the mode. Of smoked horse hide with tan calfskin, regulation wing tip and low heel.

At 5.00—A sports sandal that combines an amazing amount of comfort with an equal amount of style. In patent coltskin, tan calfskin and pearl horse.

Second Floor



Only Once in a Very Great While Comes a Sale Like This—

Imported Novelty Bracelets and Necklaces

Regularly 1.50 to 4.50

at **50c**

Imported Novelty Bracelets, closely resembling costly models that are set with real gems. In fifteen patterns—jet, rhinestones, sapphires, topaz, rose, amethyst, oliveine and ruby colored stones, set in platinoid.

Imported Necklaces of jet, or jet combined with cherry red, hand-knotted between each bead—an unusual feature. Also French filled pearl necklaces in cream and rose tints. 24, 27 and 30 inch lengths.

Street Floor

Things Decidedly NEW



They Tell Me

One cannot attend the theatre or opera these days without noting the veritable forest of leaves present—found in wreaths round nearly every fair head in the audience.



But Poirer Has Other Ideas

While the rest of the world revels in laurel headbands, Poirer's wreaths suddenly appear, made of the fruit of the vine, as it were.

New Paris headbands, such as Poirer uses, are made with a row of silver balls surrounded by balls of color. The band rises in Russian tiara fashion at the front. In brilliant blue, green, yellow, scarlet . . . 6.75

Neckwear Dept., Street Floor



The "Glass of Fashion" And Small Wonder!

For once that mysterious expense which seems to attach itself to eyeglass frames dissolves into thin air with the advent of the new eyeglass frame shown in the Jewelry Department. Green-gold finished, and fitted with soutoir ribbon. In fact all ready except for one's special lens.

Street Floor



The Certain Sign of Spring

Violets in the florist windows are all very well. But the certain sign of Spring is the arrival of the smart new silk cape to take the place of its heavier Winter sister. The above cape of black canton crepe has a beautiful swing, and a new edition of fringe made by its swinging panels of crepe, picot-edged into stripes.

The collar of the same picot edging fastens in front with a steel buckle, crepe lined.

75.00

Fourth Floor



The New Two-in-One Suit

At first it appears as a very smart navy tricotine compose suit, with its square jacket and mousquetaire cuffs edged with the new black-and-white velour binding. But in chapter two of our suit's career, the blue skirt is discarded for a wrap-around skirt of black-and-white check velour to match the coat trimmings. And, lo, a complete sports outfit is with us. The suit, with its two skirts.

69.50

Fourth Floor



Gunther Fur Storage

preserves the silken-softness of pelts

The careful treatment accorded all furs entrusted to our dry Cold Storage vault adds to their richness and beauty. Our new moderate rates sent upon request.

Gunther

Fifth Avenue at 36th Street

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